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Contributors

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County Borough of Smethwick.

The
Health of the Borough
in
1946.

HUGH PAUL, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,
Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical Officer
and Medical Superintendent of Joint Isolation
Hospital and Sanatorium,

JOHN H. WRIGHT, M.B.E., F.S.I.A.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

County Borough of Smethwick.

COMMITTEES—1945-1946

Health Committee :

Chairman : ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.

THE MAYOR

(Coun. J. Ernest Brain, J.P).

ALDERMAN E. CONDON, M.B.

ALDERMAN F. W. PERRY, J.P.

COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.

COUNCILLOR A. BRADFORD, J.P.

COUNCILLOR E. T. BROWN.

COUNCILLOR T. CLYDE MCKENZIE,

T.D., D.L., M.B.

Co-opted Members for the purposes of Maternity and Child Welfare :

MRS. EDWARDS, MRS. KENDRICK, MRS. LUDLAM, MRS. STIRRUP.

Co-opted Member for Mental Deficiency Purposes :

MISS L. N. BROOK.

St. Chad's Hospital Sub-Committee.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.

ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P. COUNCILLOR A. BRADFORD, J.P.

ALDERMAN F. W. PERRY, J.P. COUNCILLOR E. T. BROWN.

The Hollies and Day Nurseries Sub-Committee :

Chairman : ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.

ALDERMAN F. W. PERRY, J.P.

COUNCILLOR A. BRADFORD, J.P.

COUNCILLOR E. T. BROWN.

COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.

Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital Committee :

Chairman : ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, C.C.

Deputy Chairman : COUNCILLOR MRS. A. E. LENNARD, J.P.

Smethwick Representatives :

ALDERMAN E. CONDON, M.B.

ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.

COUNCILLOR J. W. ALDER.

COUNCILLOR F. BODENHAM

COUNCILLOR W. J. DARBY.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. KIMBERLEY.

Oldbury Representatives :

ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, C.C.

ALDERMAN H. H. ROBBINS, C.A.

COUNCILLOR MRS. V. E. ROSE.

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. GARRATT.

Smethwick Representatives on the South Staffordshire Joint Smallpox Hospital Board :

ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P. COUNCILLOR MRS. M. KIMBERLEY.

COUNCILLOR MRS. A. E. LENNARD, J.P.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health, Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical Officer,
and Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital:*

HUGH PAUL, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer:

A. WILSON RUSSELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health:

R. M. DYKES, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers:

MARGARET E. McLAREN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHRISTINE J. McLEAY, M.B., Ch.B.

Consulting Radiologist:

JAMES F. BRAILSFORD, Ph.D., M.D., Ch.B. F.R.C.P.

District Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator:

JAMES SHAW, M.B., Ch.B.

Vaccination Officer: F. E. CADBY.

Chief Sanitary Inspector: †*JOHN H. WRIGHT, M.B.E.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector: †*F. CADDICK.

Sanitary Inspectors:

†*R. G. EVANS (from 16/9/46). †*K. H. PERRY (from 1/10/46).

†*S. SADLER (to 28/9/46). †*H. HERBERT (to 6/7/46).

Pupil Sanitary Inspectors:

V. M. LAWTON. G. T. ALLEN. T. H. CUTLER. P. HAYNE.

Secretary: *GEORGE H. ROE.

Clerical Staff:

L. H. DEARNE, Chief Clerk (from 8/4/46). J. P. LITTLE, Senior Clerk.
FLORENCE E. HOWLETT (i/c S.M.S.).

FRANCIS K. CALLARD (i/c M.C.W.).

EVELYN M. SMITH (M.O.H.'s Secretary).

KATHLEEN L. WHISTON.

DOROTHEA H. HYND.

ANNE E. UNDERHILL

MARY L. WHITEHOUSE

CONSTANCE M. LEE (from 8/7/46).

KATHLEEN M. ASHBY (from 2/9/46).

LILLIAN PARISH (from 4/11/46).

MARJORIE GRUNDEN (from 16/12/46)

BARBARA DANCKERT.

M. S. CARTER (from 25/10/46).

EVELYN M. HAFLEY (Telephonist-Receptionist) (from 23/9/46).

*Nursing Staff:**Superintendent Health Visitor:* ‡a||Miss E. WILLIAMS.*Health Visitors:*

‡a Miss H. OWEN.	a||Miss E. COLLINS (to 12/11/46).
‡a||Miss J. E. ACKERS.	‡a||Miss M. P. O'KEEFE.
‡a||Miss S. F. DAVIES	‡a||Miss R. TAYLOR.
(to 28/2/46).	‡a||Miss J. HIGH.
‡a||Miss E. A. ROBERTS.	‡a||Miss G. I. EVANS.
‡a||Miss E. O. CORNS.	||Miss G. L. BADHAM (to 6/12/46)
‡a||Miss D. GRAINGER	
(from 11/2/46).	

The work of these nurses is divided between the following Committees—
Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, and Education.

Pupil Health Visitors:

Miss V. F. GREEN. Miss M. C. ASTBURY. Miss M. WAINWRIGHT.

Municipal Midwives:

NURSE A. GROSVENOR.	NURSE L. CHATWIN.
NURSE W. M. ASTON (to 31/10/46).	NURSE M. A. KING.
NURSE L. CONEFREY.	NURSE F. C. CONEFREY
NURSE W. KENNY.	NURSE N. O. SCRIVENS
NURSE R. MILLINGTON (to 7/12/46)	NURSE E. SALZER (from 21/11/46).

Matron of Isolation Hospital: Miss F. E. WHITEHOUSE (To 15/5/46).
Miss L. BENNETT, S.R.N., S.C.M. (From 15/5/46).

Matron of "The Hollies," Miss A. M. ROBINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.*Matrons of Day Nurseries:*

Norman Road: Miss ANNIE F. SHARP, S.R.N.
Brasshouse Lane: Miss IRENE M. CLARK.
Edgbaston Road: Miss MARY E. GRIFFIN (From 25/9/46).

Ambulance Officer: A. F. BEACON.*Assistant Ambulance Officer:* C. R. TWYXCROSS.*Public Analyst:* F. C. D. CHALMERS, M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C.

- * Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.
- † Meat and Foods' Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.
- ‡ Health Visitors' Certificate.
- a State Certified Midwife.
- || State Registered Nurse.

OBITUARY.

MRS. IRENE FOX,
Clinic Nurse.
Died 19th January, 1946.

FRANCIS E. CADBY,
Vaccination Officer.
Died 6th June, 1947.

ST. CHAD'S HOSPITAL STAFF.

Medical Superintendent:

HUGH PAUL, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Superintendent:

A. WILSON RUSSELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Obstetrics Officer:

JAMES A. CHALMERS, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), M.R.C.O.G.
(To 16/9/46).

L. A. CRUTTENDEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.(Obstet)R.C.O.G.
(From 1/10/46).

Resident Medical Officers:

A. D. ALVAREZ, M.B., Ch.B. (To 15/7/46).

E. J. LLOYD-DAVIES, M.B., Ch.B. (From 16/1/46 to 14/7/46).

KEITH D. ROBERTS, M.B.Ch.B. (From 15/7/46).

NEVILLE L. GILBURN, M.B., Ch.B. (From 15/7/46).

Matron: Miss S. B. PUGH, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant Matron: Miss A. M. FOWLER, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Secretary: GEORGE H. ROE, C.R.S.I.

Registrar: W. CECIL SHELTON, F.C.I.S.

Assistant Secretary	-	-	H. C. BOWERMAN.
Clerk and Radiographer	-	LILLIAN MUNIER.	
Clerk and Typist	-	HILDA M. PIMM.	
Clerk	-	-	§ F. G. WHITEHOUSE.
Junior Clerk	-	-	JOAN M. ALLIBONE.

Laboratory Technician: MILTON A. BEVIS, F.M.L.T.

§ With H.M. Forces.

County Borough of Smethwick.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS FOR THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF SMETHWICK.

MADAM MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The year 1946 was not a spectacular one in the history of public health in this country; there were no new schemes of importance, and very little development of our existing work. The year 1948, however, will represent a landmark in the history of public health endeavour, and will inaugurate a new epoch.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Registratr-General's estimate of the population of Smethwick for mid-1946 was 74,430, an increase over the previous year of nearly 3,000. This new figure appears to us in the Health Department to be a more correct estimate than the previous one. The number of babies born in the town was the highest recorded for over a generation, and the birth rate (20.09) was, with the exception of 1944 (20.6), the highest for 23 years. The number of illegitimate births decreased substantially from 85 to 55, but the infant mortality rate for illegitimate births was very high (127). The infant mortality rate was approximately the same as last year (50), but no fewer than two-thirds of the deaths of legitimate babies occurred in the first month of life. Half of these deaths in the first month were due to prematurity. The number of deaths between the age of one month and one year was very much lower than usual, amounting to 22, and giving a rate of 14 per thousand births.

The maternal mortality rate was the lowest in our history, and was below the rate for England and Wales. The stillbirth rate was also low, being about two-thirds of that of the country as a whole.

Cancer still causes more deaths than any other single disease, but the increase which has been going on for a generation now appears to have stopped, and the figures are more or less stationary.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever was rather prevalent during the year, but the type of disease was mild and there were no deaths. The number of cases of Diphtheria notified dropped from 42 in 1945 to 33 in 1946, and it is to be hoped during the next few years the number of cases will decline still further. Our immunisation campaign has been fairly satisfactory especially with regard to school children, of whom over 90% have now been protected, whilst of children under 5 years of age 56.5% have been protected. It is our policy now to immunise children for the first time before one year of age, and to give a further dose on attending school, and a third injection at the age of 10 years, thus maintaining the immunity of the child all through its career. There were two deaths from Diphtheria, both in children who had not been immunised. Whooping Cough was very prevalent during the year, 422 cases being notified, but the incidence of Measles was very slight.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

All through the year we have suffered from shortage of health visitors, and at one time there were seven vacancies in an establishment of 16; the amount of work, therefore, which it has been possible to do has been reduced. The attendance at the Welfare Centres has been substantially maintained, and rather more than four-fifths of the children born in the town attend one or other of our Infant Welfare Centres. The Ante-Natal Clinic still continues to grow in popularity, and the attendances in 1946 were considerably greater than for the previous year.

There were 16 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, a number considerably greater than usual. I have, by courtesy of the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital, been able to obtain the bacteriological finding in all of these cases since the spring of 1946, and of the nine cases which have occurred between this time and the end of the year the causative organism in seven cases was the staphylococcus albus, in one case the xerosis bacilli, and in one case the streptococcus. This notifiable condition was formerly due almost entirely to gonorrhoeal infection, and it is pleasing to note that not one of the cases notified during these months was gonorrhoeal in origin.

Of the 1,496 births in Smethwick during the year, 654 were attended by the Council's midwives, and a further 643 were confined in St. Chad's Hospital. The average duration of stay of maternity cases in St. Chad's Hospital was reduced from just over 14 days in 1945, to 12.75 days in 1946, and a still further reduction has taken place in 1947. This is due entirely to the higher birth-rate, and to the increased demand for accommodation in St. Chad's. We have been fortunate during the year in maintaining almost our full quota of district midwives and it is pleasing to note that for the 654 cases which these midwives delivered they paid no fewer than 18,419 visits; the standard of their work is commendably high.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of cases of tuberculosis on the register in Smethwick in 1938 was 376, and on the 1st January 1946 was 729, an increase of 91%. The death rate for tuberculosis in Smethwick in 1938 was 80 per hundred thousand, and this had risen in 1946 to 84, an increase of less than 4%. We have the position, therefore, that while the number of cases on the register has increased by 91% the death rate has scarcely increased. These figures call for analysis. Our tuberculosis scheme in 1947 is more complete than it was in 1938, the amount of time devoted to it by Dr. Russell is considerably greater now than for the period before the war, and the attendances at the Chest Clinic have almost exactly doubled. The examination of contacts is more thorough and complete now than in 1938, and the number of X-Ray examinations is twice as great as before the war. It is a reasonable assumption, therefore, that part of the apparent increase is due to fuller ascertainment and more complete methods of investigation. It is impossible to estimate what proportion of the increase is due to improved methods of investigation, but in the case of children it is very substantial. The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in children diagnosed in the year 1938 was 1, and it was 14 in 1945. This increase I think is almost entirely due to extensive use of X-Ray apparatus.

It is undoubtedly true, however, that there has been a substantial increase in tuberculosis since 1939, even though it may be, as it probably is, considerably less than 91%.

Of the 729 ascertained cases of tuberculosis in Smethwick 552 or approximately three-fourths of this number are pulmonary tuberculosis, and 177, approximately one-fourth, are non-pulmonary. About a fifth of the total patients are children. The measures required for the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis are rather different in the case of adults and children.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Children.

The problem of dealing with children who are suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, of whom there are approximately 100, is not a difficult one, and in practice we have usually been successful in getting in various institutions the accommodation required for their treatment. At the moment, eight of them are in the "Woodlands." The treatment of those who are not in institutions consists mainly in improving their standard of nutrition and housing. A few of them attend the Open Air School. None of these children is infectious, they are no danger to the community, and the hope of eventual recovery is good.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Children.

There are 49 children in Smethwick at present suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, but most of these are of the type known as hilar tuberculosis, that is, tuberculosis of the roots of the lungs, mainly glandular in type, and here again treatment is usually effective and facilities for treatment in Smethwick are ample. They are not infectious and are no danger to the community. Some of them are at the Open Air School, and a substantial number of them have spent varying periods of residence in the "Hollies."

Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Adults.

There are in Smethwick approximately 500 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in adults, and these represent our most difficult problem, but even of these the majority do not require institutional treatment. Of this number 327 are positive cases, that is, are infectious, and therefore, a possible source of danger to the community.

The complex subject of the treatment of tuberculosis cannot be simplified to the extent of suggesting that it really consists of finding 327 beds in institutions for these unfortunate patients. It cannot be too strongly stressed that contracting tuberculosis is not a penal offence, the punishment for which is the loss of personal liberty. The Council has power, and has had power since 1927 of compelling infectious patients to go into an institution if it is considered that they are a danger to the community, but this dangerous power has only been used in about half a dozen cases during this period of 20 years, and then only when the dangerous patient has persistently refused to co-operate with the Authorities, and there has been grave danger to other members of the community.

It is neither necessary or desirable that all positive cases of tuberculosis should be in hospital or sanatorium. The patients chosen for institutional treatment are first those negative patients, that is, non-infectious patients, who require treatment for the cure of their disease or to prevent them from becoming positive, and at the other end of the scale those cases of positive tuberculosis who require to be admitted to hospital for periods of 3 to 6 months from time to time to enable them to receive the appropriate treatment and/or to convert their condition from a positive to a negative one.

The Problem in Smethwick.

The problem of the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis in Smethwick is a complex one calls for consideration under the three main headings:—

- First - Adequate housing.
- Second - Improvement in the nutritional standard of the people.
- Third - Institutional treatment.

The order in which these requirements are set out is deliberate. By far the most important requirement is improved housing. At the present moment there are 43 tuberculosis patients who are living under overcrowded conditions in Smethwick, conditions under which they are likely to infect other members of the community or to prejudice seriously their chances of recovery. Of these 43 cases 27 are positive. It is not suggested that these 43 patients are the only tuberculosis patients who require improved housing conditions; they are merely those whose conditions are so bad that they have been the subject of urgent representation by Dr. Russell or myself to the Housing Department for special attention. The task of the Housing Committee is an invidious one, and with the best will in the world they would hardly solve this problem in a brief space of time. Yet before we can hope to see a substantial reduction in the incidence of tuberculosis in the town, these patients must obtain better housing accommodation. The next important requirement is the raising of the standard of nutrition of the citizens of the town. This is outside the scope of the powers or duties of the Health Committee, but much of the decline of tuberculosis in the past generation has been due to an improved standard of living in this country. (The death rate from tuberculosis in Smethwick in 1914 was 145 per hundred thousand compared with 84 last year).

These patients do not require institutional treatment; they need houses. To insist on their being removed to hospital because we cannot supply the houses would be inhuman and cruel, and contrary to our national conception of justice.

Finally we come to the question of institutional accommodation. Including the eight referred to above who are in the "Woodlands," we have at the moment 61 patients receiving hospital or sanatorium treatment, apart from the few cases of hilar tuberculosis in the Open Air School or the "Hollies." The number of patients awaiting sanatorium treatment is 32, and Dr. Russell and I are both satisfied that the addition of 32 beds to the ones we are using at the present time will satisfy all our institutional needs for this waiting list. About one third of the need (say 10) is for hospital cases, that is, patients who enter an institution like Holly Lane, and the remainder (22) requiring sanatorium treatment such as would be provided in Romsley, Crossley, Isle of Wight, etc. The problem, therefore, before the Health Committee is to find an additional 32 beds making 93 in all, and the Council is at present endeavouring to increase the number of beds available.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, and to the Council for their support and kindness during the year, to my colleagues in other departments, to the members of my own staff for their valuable assistance.

I have the honour to be, Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH PAUL, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

24th June, 1947.

APPROXIMATE NET EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC HEALTH
SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1947.

	Amount £	Rate in the £ s. d.
Prevention of Infectious Diseases	1,228	·73
Notification of Infectious Diseases	108	·06
Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital ...	8,115	4·80
South Staffs. Joint Smallpox Hospital ...	1	·00
St. Chad's Hospital	16,565	9·80
Hospital Provision	2,690	1·59
Day Nurseries	2,867	1·70
The Hollies	198	·12
Birmingham Hospitals Contributory Contribu- tions	590	·35
Tuberculosis	12,806	7·58
Venereal Diseases	513	·30
Vaccination	370	·22
Blind Persons Act, 1920	4,958	2·93
Mental Deficiency	8,191	4·85
Mental Hospitals	4,675	2·77
Maintenance of Epileptics	84	·05
Maternity and Child Welfare	10,827	6·41
Midwives' Act	672	·40
Ambulance Service	5,160	3·05
Foods and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928 ...	263	·15
Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915 ...	116	·07
Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Order, 1936	12	·01
Conversion of Waste Water Closets	900	·53
Smoke Abatement	23	·01
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926 ...	5	·00
Administration	10,096	5·97
Public Assistance:—		
Hospitals	1,700	1·01
Children's Homes	1,160	·69
Mental Hospitals	20,240	11·98
	115,133	5 8·13

Annual Report for 1946

GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA: 2,500 acres.

POPULATION: Census, 1931—84,406.

Estimated pre-war: 78,290.

Estimated civilian population 1946: 74,430.

RATEABLE VALUE: October, 1946: £431,490.

ESTIMATED PRODUCT OF A PENNY RATE: £1,680.

RATES IN THE £: 17/6d.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF HOUSES IN THE BOROUGH: 21,185.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

					1946	1945
BIRTHS:	Males	...	...	...	775	692
	Females	...	...	...	721	643
Total					1,496	1,335
Illegitimate Births included in						
above total					55	85
Birth-rate per 1,000 population					20.09	18.6
DEATHS:	Males	...	...	...	511	485
	Females	...	...	...	403	432
Total					914	917
Death-rate per 1,000 population					12.28	12.8
INFANT DEATHS:	Males	...	...	...	47	41
	Females	...	...	...	27	26
Total					74	67
Infantile Mortality:						
Legitimate					44.7	50.4
Illegitimate					127.2	47.06
Total					50.1	50.18
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks					52	40
Neo-natal Mortality					34.7	29.9
					1946	1945
					No.	Rate per
						1,000
						population
DEATHS FROM:						
Enteric Fever					—	—
Measles					—	1
Whooping Cough					—	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis					—	—
(under 2 years)					12	0.16
Diphtheria					2	0.02
Scarlet Fever					—	—
Influenza					8	0.1
Cancer					145	1.94
Respiratory Diseases					121	1.62
Pulmonary Tuberculosis					55	0.73
Other Forms of Tuberculosis					4	0.05
Cerebro Spinal Fever					2	0.02
Road Traffic Accidents					8	0.1

	Smethwick.	England and Wales.	County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—					
BIRTHS :—					
Live	20.09	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5
Still	0.34	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54
DEATHS :—					
All Causes	12.28	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	—	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.1	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	—	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Deaths under 1 year of age					
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	50.1	43	46	37	41
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Typhoid Fever	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.98	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.42
Whooping Cough	5.66	2.28	2.48	2.05	2.22
Diphtheria	0.44	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.24
Erysipelas	0.29	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	1.86	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35
Pneumonia	0.68	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—					
	50.1	46	54	43	53
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—					
	6.7	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6
	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
	3.21	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57
	0.58	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25
	0.32	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31
	—	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.13
	—	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
	11.26	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03
	10.71	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :—					
	1.46	0.24	Not available.	Not available.	Not available.
	0.72	1.22	—	—	—
	2.18	1.46	—	—	—
	4.36	9.93	12.65	8.81	3.60 15.87 including Puerperal Fever.

* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

REVIEW OF VITAL STATISTICS IN SMETHWICK DURING
THE PAST 25 YEARS.

Year	Birth rate per 1,000	Death rate per 1,000	Infant mor- tality rate per 1,000 births	Zymotic death rate per 1,000	Respiratory diseases	Death rates per 1,000		
						Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Cancer
1922	21.39	11.22	86.12	0.67	2.31	0.78	0.32	1.13
1923	20.24	10.82	65.49	0.79	1.82	0.93	0.17	1.04
1924	20.19	10.12	74.79	0.41	1.87	0.67	0.17	1.20
1925	18.36	10.36	80.11	0.52	1.91	0.77	0.24	1.10
1926	18.35	10.39	65.86	0.37	1.88	0.79	0.10	1.26
1927	17.0	11.9	78.6	0.61	2.26	0.84	0.05	1.19
1928	17.1	10.0	63	0.28	1.52	0.69	0.10	1.11
1929	17.8	13.4	79.8	0.70	2.58	0.95	0.12	1.23
1930	18.0	10.4	66.4	0.41	1.17	0.67	0.11	1.28
1931	18.0	11.2	69.6	0.57	1.63	0.62	0.10	1.24
1932	15.2	10.5	78.4	0.23	1.36	0.52	0.09	1.53
1933	14.4	10.8	62.0	0.16	1.60	0.62	0.05	1.44
1934	15.7	10.6	56.9	0.22	1.60	0.57	0.14	1.20
1935	14.7	11.1	60.9	0.31	1.10	0.59	0.06	1.56
1936	15.5	10.5	59.9	0.18	1.60	0.54	0.02	1.47
1937	14.6	11.5	52.5	0.27	1.64	0.70	0.02	1.35
1938	15.3	11.0	62.2	0.25	1.28	0.70	0.10	1.59
1939	14.8	10.7	54.5	0.26	1.04	0.52	0.05	1.79
1940	15.3	14.0	41.9	0.14	2.72	0.61	0.07	1.86
1941	15.09	13.9	60.0	0.18	2.10	0.84	0.06	1.89
1942	17.2	12.0	54.5	0.16	1.81	0.70	0.08	1.92
1943	18.6	13.08	64.5	0.24	2.03	0.84	0.05	2.15
1944	20.6	12.2	45.0	0.26	1.14	0.80	0.07	2.05
1945	18.6	12.8	50.4	0.08	1.53	0.79	0.08	1.99
1946	20.09	12.28	50.1	0.18	1.62	0.73	0.05	1.94

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCARLET FEVER.

The incidence of, and mortality from, Scarlet Fever during the past five years is as follows:—

Year	Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000 population	Number of deaths	Case mortality per cent.
1942	150	2.07	—	—
1943	128	1.77	2	1.5
1944	132	1.83	—	—
1945	100	1.39	—	—
1946	148	1.98	—	—

DIPHTHERIA.

The incidence of, and mortality from, Diphtheria during the past five years is as follows:—

Year	Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000 population	Number of deaths	Case mortality per cent.
1942	47	0.64	2	4.2
1943	22	0.30	—	—
1944	44	0.61	3	6.8
1945	42	0.58	5	11.9
1946	33	0.44	2	6.06

The number of children immunised during the past two years is as follows:—

	1946	1945
	1,090	1,006
	813	480
Totals	1,903	1,486

At the 31st December, 1946, it was estimated that 56.5 per cent. of the child population under five, and 91 per cent. of children from five to fifteen were protected against diphtheria.

TYPHOID AND PARATYPHOID FEVER.

No case of typhoid or paratyphoid fever was notified during the year.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

Five cases of cerebro-spinal fever were notified, and there was one death. During 1945 the number of cases was 5 with no deaths compared with 4 and 2 deaths in 1944.

WHOOPING COUGH AND MEASLES.

Whooping Cough was prevalent during 1946 showing an incidence higher than for the country as a whole, but Measles showed a drop the attack rate being much lower than that of England and Wales.

	Cases Notified		Attack-rate per 1,000 population	
	1945	1946	1945	1946
Whooping Cough	230	422	3.21	5.66
Measles	807	139	11.26	1.86

SMETHWICK & OLDBURY JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL. STATEMENT OF CASES ADMITTED AND DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR 1946.

	Number of Cases in Hospital on December 31st, 1945.				Number of Cases Admitted during 1946				Cases Discharged, or Transferred to other Institutions during 1946.				Cases Died during 1946				Number of Cases in Hospital on December 31st, 1946.			
	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total
SMETHWICK :																				
Diphtheria ...	...	...	1	1	7	12	30	49	7	11	27	45	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	1	1	3	4	23	30	3	2	18	23	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	8
Measles ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	3	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	15	...	...	15	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	11	8	3	22	3	2	...	5	1	...	2	3	7	6	1	14
Lobar Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	7	3	3	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Broncho Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	6	2	2	2	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pemphigus ...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	4	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Infectious ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
OLDBURY :																				
Diphtheria ...	3	2	11	16	3	5	34	42	6	7	39	52	...	...	4	4	...	...	2	2
Scarlet fever ...	...	...	1	1	2	1	15	18	2	1	15	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid ...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	5	1	3	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	3	2	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broncho Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
WORCESTER																				
County Council																				
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	8	2	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	4
Totals ...	3	2	15	20	39	49	145	233	32	39	130	201	1	...	7	8	9	12	23	44

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1946.

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.											Cases removed to Hospital.	TOTAL DEATHS.						
	AGE GROUPS.												AGE GROUPS.						
	All ages	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards	All ages		0-1	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 and upwards	
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Scarlet Fever	148	...	9	33	55	37	6	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria	33	...	1	6	7	4	7	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Erysipelas	22	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	8	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	...	...	...	...	...	1	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	16	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	5	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Malaria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Dysentery	13	...	...	2	2	...	2	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Pneumonia	51	3	1	6	3	...	3	9	17	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Whooping Cough	422	37	150	137	88	4	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Measles	139	6	34	55	42	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
TOTALS	863	63	197	239	197	48	23	48	33	15	...	102	41	8	1	2	5	11	14

TUBERCULOSIS.

NOTIFICATIONS.

The following table shows the notifications received and the attack rate with the deaths and death-rate for each year since the commencement of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912:—

		Notifications received :		Attack Rate per 1,000 of the population :		Deaths		Death rate	
		Pulmon-ary	Other forms	Pulmon-ary	Other forms	Pulmon-ary	Other forms	Pulmon-ary	Other forms
1913	.....	318	50	4.3	0.68	64	20	0.87	0.27
1914	.....	143	167	1.9	2.2	84	14	1.15	0.19
1915	.....	229	103	3.1	1.4	79	15	1.09	0.21
1916	.....	204	117	2.6	1.4	91	12	1.16	0.15
1917	.....	206	126	2.6	1.6	103	6	1.31	0.07
1918	.....	194	80	2.5	1.0	97	11	1.27	0.14
1919	.....	260	60	3.5	0.8	87	9	1.19	0.12
1920	.....	146	31	1.9	0.4	62	24	0.81	0.31
1921	.....	88	14	1.1	0.18	53	17	0.68	0.22
1922	.....	112	17	1.4	0.2	61	25	0.78	0.32
1923	.....	80	18	1.02	0.2	73	14	0.93	0.17
1924	.....	110	18	1.39	0.2	53	14	0.67	0.17
1925	.....	74	24	0.9	0.3	61	19	0.77	0.24
1926	.....	94	16	1.2	0.2	61	8	0.79	0.10
1927	.....	87	38	1.1	0.49	65	4	0.84	0.05
1928	.....	73	25	0.8	0.29	59	9	0.69	0.10
1929	.....	108	34	1.2	0.4	81	11	0.95	0.12
1930	.....	76	19	0.89	0.22	57	10	0.67	0.11
1931	.....	80	29	0.93	0.33	53	9	0.62	0.10
1932	.....	65	20	0.76	0.23	44	8	0.52	0.09
1933	.....	55	16	0.64	0.19	53	5	0.62	0.05
1934	.....	72	19	0.85	0.22	48	12	0.57	0.14
1935	.....	95	19	1.15	0.23	49	5	0.59	0.06
1936	.....	81	21	0.99	0.25	44	2	0.54	0.02
1937	.....	77	4	0.95	0.04	57	2	0.70	0.02
1938	.....	78	20	0.97	0.25	56	8	0.70	0.10
1939	.....	89	15	1.11	0.19	40	4	0.52	0.05
1940	.....	52	15	0.72	0.20	44	5	0.61	0.07
1941	.....	83	10	1.15	0.14	61	5	0.84	0.06
1942	.....	102	28	1.40	0.38	51	6	0.70	0.08
1943	.....	92	20	1.27	0.27	61	4	0.84	0.05
1944	.....	126	17	1.74	0.23	58	5	0.80	0.07
1945	.....	151	26	2.1	0.37	57	6	0.79	0.08
1946	.....	149	16	2.00	0.21	55	4	0.73	0.05

The following table shows the total NEW CASES, i.e., all PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS and also NEW CASES coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health from the death returns, transfers from other areas, etc.

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	1945				1946			
	Pulmonary.		Other forms.		Pulmonary.		Other forms.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 to 1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
1 to 5	—	—	2	3	1	1	3	—
5 to 10	3	4	1	1	6	9	5	1
10 to 15	2	5	2	4	1	3	1	—
15 to 20	6	11	—	3	8	14	1	1
20 to 25	16	13	—	2	5	7	—	1
25 to 35	16	15	2	2	20	12	—	—
35 to 45	18	7	—	—	16	7	—	—
45 to 55	14	8	—	1	14	4	—	—
55 to 65	13	8	1	1	13	3	—	—
65 upwards	5	2	1	2	5	—	1	—
TOTALS	93	73	10	19	89	60	12	4

The deaths from tuberculosis during 1945 and 1946 are shown as follows:—

AGE PERIODS.	1945				1946			
	Pulmonary		Other forms		Pulmonary		Other forms	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
5 to 15	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	—
15 to 45	18	15	—	—	25	11	—	—
45 to 65	13	5	1	—	9	4	1	—
65 upwards	3	1	—	1	2	2	—	—
TOTALS ...	36	21	3	3	36	19	4	—

The number of cases remaining on the Dispensary Register on 31st December, 1946, was 717, viz.:—

Pulmonary—Males ...	282	Non-Pulmonary—Males ...	30
Females .	216	Females ..	47
Children..	43	Children...	99
	<u>541</u>		<u>176</u>

Attendances at the Chest Clinic were as under:—

	1946	1945
First examinations	900	733
Re-examinations	1,102	994
Consultations	1,473	1,346
Mantoux Tests	172	160
Artificial-pneumothorax	1,153	730
Gold Treatment	130	122
Artificial light treatment	1,958	1,900
Total attendances	<u>6,888</u>	<u>5,985</u>
Number of X-Ray examinations	1,599	1,494
Visits to patients at Home:—		
(a) By Health Visitor	1,061	1,028
(b) By Clinical T.O.	382	281
Patients admitted to Sanatoria	97	121
Patients discharged from Sanatoria	90	102
Patients died in Sanatoria	9	20
Patients remaining in Sanatoria at end of year	52	51

TABLES SHEWING ADMISSIONS to, and DISCHARGES from, SANATORIA during the Year 1946.

NAME OF INSTITUTION	Number of Cases in Sanatorium on January 1st, 1946.			Number of Cases admitted during 1946.			Cases discharged or transferred to the Chest Clinic.			Number of Cases in Sanatorium on December 31st, 1946.			Number of Deaths		
	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children
Holly Lane Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	13	8	3	24	3	3	...	6	2	...	3
Romsley Hill Sanatorium ...	8	7	...	15	22	21	...	43	20	23	...	43	2	3	...
Crossley Sanatorium, Cheshire ...	2	7	...	9	4	4	...	8	2	6	...	8	...	...	...
Creaton Sanatorium, N'thampton	4	4	...	8	10	6	...	16	9	6	...	15	...	...	...
Royal Nat. Sanatorium, Ventnor..	2	1	...	3	1	2	...	3	3	2	...	5	...	...	...
The Woodlands, Northfield ...	1	...	3	4	...	2	1	3	1	1	...	2	...	...	...
The Forelands, Bromsgrove ...	...	...	7	7	...	...	3	3	...	...	5	5	...	...	...
Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Hospital, Oswestry ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	18	19	10	47	50	43	7	100	38	41	5	84	26	18	9
													4	3	3

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES.

	1 Jan., 1946	31 Dec., 1946
No. of cases on Register	27	53

No. of Allowances authorised during the year:

(a) Maintenance Allowances	50
(b) Discretionary Allowances	14
(c) Special Payments	12

No. of Allowances ceased during the year:

1. *Maintenance Allowances*—

(a) Resumed employment	20
(b) Out of Scope	5
(c) Died	3
(d) Left District	1
(e) No dependants—admitted to Sanatorium	3

2. *Discretionary Allowances*:—

(a) Dependants income increased	2
(b) Resumed work	2
(c) Out of Scope	1

The amount of allowances paid—	1946	1945
Maintenance allowance	£3,107 15 9	£2,666 9 6
Discretionary allowances	£64 7 2	£57 16 0
Special payments	£29 10 0	£16 4 0
	<u>£3,201 12 11</u>	<u>£2,740 9 6</u>

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS.

The following is an extract from the Return of Mental Defectives as on 1st January, 1947, submitted to the Board of Control:—

	M.	F.	Total
Number of cases in Institutions (excluding cases on licence)	35	26	61
Number of cases on licence from Institutions...	6	5	11
Number of cases under Guardianship	6	7	13
Number of cases in " places of safety "	3	2	5
Number of cases under Statutory Supervision...	142	103	245
Number of cases in receipt of Poor Law Relief:—			
(a) In institutions	1	2	3
(b) Domiciliary	8	5	13

VENEREAL DISEASES.

By arrangement, treatment is available for Smethwick patients at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and the figures below are taken from the report received from the Medical Director of the V.D. Department:—

A.—Number of Smethwick patients dealt with at or in connection with the Out-Patients Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

	1938	1943	1944	1945	1946
Syphilis	13	16	29	21	33
Soft Chancre	—	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	47	27	9	30	42
Conditions other than Venereal	70	116	96	80	140
	<u>130</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>215</u>

B.—Total number of attendances at the Out-Patient Clinic of all persons residing in Smethwick 4,973 2,535 2,383 2,536 3,061

REGULATION 33 B.

Only one form was received, the woman concerned could not be traced owing to insufficient address.

In no case were two forms received relating to the same person.

ST. CHAD'S HOSPITAL.**STATISTICS RELATING TO THE YEARS 1945—1946.****(A) IN-PATIENTS.**

	1946	1945
1. Total number of admissions (including infants born in hospital)	3,022	2,774
2. Number of women confined in hospital	636	562
3. Number of live births	637	561
4. Number of still-births	15	18
5. Number of deaths among the newly-born (i.e., under four weeks of age)	19	24
6. Total number of deaths among children under one year (including those given under 5) ...	32	29
7. Number of maternal deaths among women admitted to hospital for confinement ...	2	1
8. Total number of deaths	185	153
9. Total number of discharges (including infants born in hospital)	3,054	2,617
10. Duration of stay of patients included in 8 and 9 above. Number of cases whose total stay was for the following periods:—		
(a) Under four weeks	2,712	2,418
(b) Four weeks and under thirteen weeks	308	317
(c) Thirteen weeks or more	34	35
11. Number of beds occupied (excluding cots in maternity wards): average during the year	119·6	125·3
12. Number of surgical operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations)...	870	926

(B) OUT-PATIENTS.

There is at present no out-patients department in connection with St. Chad's Hospital.

CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS WHO WERE DISCHARGED
FROM OR WHO DIED IN THE INSTITUTION DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

Disease Groups.					Children under 16 years of age		Men and Women	
					Dis- charged	Died	Dis- charged	Died
A.	Acute Infectious Disease	...	...	...	4	2	14	1
B.	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
C.	Tuberculosis :—							
	Pulmonary	...	...	...	8	1	48	7
	Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	1	1	5	1
D.	Malignant Disease	...	...	...	—	—	47	26
E.	Rheumatism :—							
	(1) Acute Rheumatism (Rheumatic Fever) together with sub-acute rheumatism and chorea	...	...	...	1	—	3	—
	(2) Non-articular manifestations of so-called "rheumatism" (muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica)	...	...	...	3	—	16	1
	(3) Chronic arthritis	...	...	...	—	—	16	—
F.	Venereal Disease	..	...	...	—	1	1	2
G.	Puerperal Pyrexia :—							
	(a) Women confined in Hospital	...	...	...	—	—	6	—
	(b) Other cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
H.	Other diseases and Accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth	...	...	...	—	—	137	2
I.	Mental Diseases :—							
	(a) Senile Dementia	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
	(b) Other	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
J.	Senile Decay	...	...	...	—	—	1	1
K.	Accidental Injury and Violence	...	...	...	8	—	18	1
	In respect of cases not included above :—							
L.	Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	...	...	...	24	3	34	17
M.	Diseases of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	38	1	84	26
N.	Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	12	—	89	13
O.	Diseases of the Digestive System	...	...	...	313	4	375	27
P.	Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	...	...	...	12	—	149	10
Q.	Diseases of the Skin	...	...	...	9	—	25	—
R.	Other Diseases	...	...	...	19	33	77	4
S.	Mothers and Infants discharged and not included in above figures :							
	Mothers	...	...	...	—	—	632	—
	Infants	...	...	...	624	—	—	—
T.	Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	...	...	...	4	—	10	—
					1,080	46	1,789	139
					3,054			

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY, 1946.

St. Chad's Hospital:—

Routine urine examinations	...	...	...	...	351
Urea concentration tests	...	...	...	...	45
Urea clearance tests	...	...	...	...	3
Zondeck-Asheim tests (sent out)	...	...	...	...	15
Urine for T.B.	...	...	...	...	5
Routine Blood counts	...	...	...	...	534
Differential counts	...	...	...	...	119
Reticulocyte counts	...	...	...	...	11
Blood Cholesterol test (sent out)	...	...	...	...	1
Widal reactions	...	...	...	...	13
Blood urea estimations	...	...	...	...	176
Blood sugar estimations	...	...	...	...	69
Blood groups (recorded)	...	...	...	...	82
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	143
Van-den-Bergh reactions	...	...	...	...	8
Wassermann reactions (sent out)	...	...	...	...	64
Gonococcal fixation tests (sent out)	...	...	...	...	13
Blood Kahn reactions...	...	...	...	...	63
Bleeding and clotting times	...	...	...	...	5
Blood Chloride test (sent out)	...	...	...	...	6
Blood cultures	...	...	...	...	31
Blood Protein test (sent out)...	...	...	...	...	3
Blood Platelets test	...	...	...	...	1
Blood Sodium test (sent out)	...	...	...	...	1
Faeces for Occult blood	...	...	...	...	102
Faeces for Typhoid/Dysentery	...	...	...	...	97
Faeces for T.B.	...	...	...	...	35
Test Meals examinations	...	...	...	...	94
Faeces for Fat test (sent out)	...	...	...	...	13
Sheep Cell agglutination tests	...	...	...	...	3
Nose and Throat swabs for Bacteriology	...	...	...	...	40
Swabs for K.L.B. Virulence (sent out)	...	...	...	...	3
Vaginal swabs for Bacteriology	...	...	...	...	45
Other swabs for Bacteriology...	...	...	...	...	100
Penicillin sensitivity test	...	...	...	...	5
Diastatic Index test	...	...	...	...	3
C.S.F. Routine examinations	...	...	...	...	58
C.S.F. for Wassermann (sent out)	...	...	...	...	23
C.S.F. Lange reactions	...	...	...	...	1
Peritoneal/Pleural fluids	...	...	...	...	38
Sputum for T.B.	...	...	...	...	143
Sputum for Bacteriology	...	...	...	...	21
Streptococcal groups (Lancefield)	...	...	...	...	1
Blood fragility test	...	...	...	...	3
Bile solubility test	...	...	...	...	1
Blood Uric Acid test (sent out)	...	...	...	...	1
Laboratory examinations for sick or new staff	...	...	...	...	31
Post Mortem examinations	...	...	...	...	75
Surgical sections	...	...	...	...	178

2,876

Holly Lane Hospital:—

Sputum for T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	13
Swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	7
Routine urine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	20
Faeces for T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	2
Swabs for K.L.B.	...	...	...	...	...	168
Blood culture examinations	...	...	...	...	...	9
C.S.F. routine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	6
Faeces for Typhoid/Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	33
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	1
Widal reactions	...	...	...	...	...	9
Diphth. Virulence (sent out)	...	...	...	...	...	8
Kahn reactions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	1
Differential counts	...	...	...	...	...	1
						279

Chest Clinic:—

Swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	7
Sputum for T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	30
Routine urine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pleural fluids	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	4
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	6
Differential counts	...	...	...	...	...	3
Blood Kahn reactions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Widal reactions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sheep Cell Agglutinations reaction	...	...	...	...	...	1
						59

"Hollies" Children's Home:—

Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	9
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

School Clinics:—

Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	24
Nose and throat swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	23
Blood Kahn reactions	...	...	...	...	...	2
						52

General Practitioners:—

Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	1
Faeces for Typhoid/Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	2
Swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	2
						7

Cape Ante-Natal Clinic:—

Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	2
Blood Kahn reactions	...	...	...	...	...	544
Blood groups	...	...	...	...	...	541
Blood Rhesus factor	...	...	...	...	...	541
Blood Wassermann reactions (sent out)	...	...	...	...	...	29
Urine routine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vaginal swabs	...	...	...	...	...	5
						1,665

"Firs" Ante-Natal Clinic:--

Vaginal swabs	16
Blood counts	3
Differential counts	1
Blood Kahn reactions... ..	661
Blood Rhesus factor	659
Blood groups	659
Routine Urine examinations	8
Wassermann reactions (sent out)	28
Blood Urea estimations	2
	2,037

TOTAL SPECIMENS FROM ALL SOURCES, 6,984.

The work of the laboratory has greatly increased during the last twelve months, an increase of 621 examinations for St. Chad's Hospital, and a total increase of 3,797 examinations.

The laboratory now offers, and carries out extensive examinations on all the Borough's ante-natal patients, including Rhesus investigations; this work is made possible by the co-operation of the Regional Blood Transfusion Laboratory at Highfield Road, under the direction of Dr. Dick. Specimens from Holly Lane Isolation Hospital, have increased from 123 in 1945, to 279 in 1946. School Clinic laboratory examinations show an increase from 31 to 52, in the past twelve months.

(Signed) J. W. ABBISS.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

General:—

St. Chad's Hospital, situated in Hagley Road, Birmingham, contains 147 beds for the reception of medical, surgical, maternity and gynaecological patients.

Tuberculosis:—

Holly Lane Hospital, Smethwick. 20 beds for advanced and chronic cases.

Romsley Hill Sanatorium, near Halesowen. (Birmingham Corporation). 17 beds reserved for Smethwick patients.

Creaton Sanatorium, Northamptonshire, 8 beds reserved for Smethwick patients.

For Surgical Tuberculosis. Cases are sent to "The Woodlands," Northfield and "The Forelands," Bromsgrove.

Maternity:—

There are 27 beds for maternity cases at the Council's Municipal Hospital.

Two beds reserved for cases of Puerperal Fever at the Women's Hospital, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

Children:—

The Council has an arrangement with the Children's Hospital, Birmingham, for the treatment of children. Most of the Smethwick children are, however, treated at St. Chad's Hospital.

Fever:—

Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Isolation Hospital, Holly Lane, Smethwick. All types of infectious diseases are now treated. (79 beds).

Smallpox:—

South Staffordshire Joint Smallpox Hospital, Moxley, near Wednesbury.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

*Infant Welfare Centres:—*There are seven Infant Welfare Centres in the Borough, and sessions are held as stated below:—

The "Firs," Cooper's Lane	... Monday/Thursday	2—4 p.m.
The Cape, Durban Road	... Tuesday	2—4 p.m.
	... Wednesday	9—11 a.m.
Sandwell, St. Stephen's Church Hall, Cambridge Road...	... Wednesday	2—4 p.m.
Oldbury Road, Oldbury Road Schools	... Friday	2—4 p.m.
Warley, St. Gregory's Church Hall, Wigorn Road	... Friday	2—4 p.m.
Bearwood Baptist Hall, Rawlings Road	... Monday	2—4 p.m.
Londonderry, Community Hall, Hurst Road	... Tuesday/Thursday	2—4 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation is carried out at all the above Centres.		

Ante-Natal Clinic.

Held at the Firs Clinic, Cooper's Lane, as stated below:—

Monday	9—11 a.m.
Tuesday	2—3 p.m.
Wednesday	9—11 a.m.
Wednesday	2—3 p.m.
Friday	9—11 a.m.

Cape Clinic, as stated below:—

Tuesday	9—11 a.m.
Thursday	9—11 a.m.
Thursday	2—3 p.m.

Post-Natal Clinic.

Held at the "Firs" Clinic, Cooper's Lane, as stated below:—

	Friday	9—11 a.m.
Cape Clinic, Durban Road ...	Monday	9—11 a.m.

Chest Clinic.

Held at the "Firs" Clinic, Cooper's Lane:—

Monday	6—8 p.m.	(Workers)
Tuesday	9—10 a.m.	(Children)
Wednesday	2—4 p.m.	
Thursday	9—10 a.m.	(Children)
Thursday	2—4 p.m.	(Refills only, no new cases seen)
Friday	2—4 p.m.	

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

General Hospital, Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham. Daily, except Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.—12 noon, and 5—7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m.—12 noon.

School Clinics.

Two School Clinics are provided, one at the Cape Clinic, Durban Road, and one at the "Firs" Clinic, Cooper's Lane. The days and times of attendance are as follows:—

"Firs" Clinic:—

Inspection Clinic ...	Tuesday	9.30—12 noon
Treatment Clinic ...	Monday	9.30—12 noon
	Tuesday	9.30—12 noon
	Wednesday	9.30—12 noon
	Thursday	9.30—12 noon
	Friday	9.30—12 noon
Eye Clinic ...	Monday	2—5 p.m.
	Thursday	2—5 p.m.

Cape Clinic, Durban Road:—

Inspection Clinic ...	Friday	9.30—12 noon
Treatment Clinic ...	Monday	2—5 p.m.
	Tuesday	2—5 p.m.
	Thursday	2—5 p.m.
Skin Inspection Clinic ...	Wednesday	2—5 p.m.
Skin Treatment Clinic ...	Monday	9.30—12 noon
	Tuesday	9.30—12 noon
	Wednesday	9.30—12 noon
	Thursday	9.30—12 noon
	Friday	2—5 p.m.

Dental Clinics.

Held at the "Firs" Cooper's Lane, and at Cape Clinic, Durban Road, as stated below:—

The "Firs." Daily—9.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m. and 2—5 p.m. (except Monday and Wednesday afternoons).

Cape Clinic, Durban Road. Daily—9.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m., and 2—5 p.m. (except Tuesday mornings, Wednesday afternoons, and alternate Friday mornings).

Ultra-Violet Radiation Clinic:—

The "Firs," Cooper's Lane—Wednesday morning and Friday morning.

X-Ray Examination:—

At the "Firs" Clinic by appointment.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Smethwick District Nursing Association, The Edward Cheshire Nurses' Home, Bearwood Road, Smethwick, has a nurse-matron and two nurses, who undertake general nursing among the poorer inhabitants in the district.

Midwives.

Twelve midwives reside in the Borough, and a total of 12 notified their intention to practise in the area during the year.

Chemical Work.

This work is undertaken by the Public Analyst for the Borough.

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious Cases: Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital Committee have two motor ambulances, which are kept at the Isolation Hospital, Holly Lane, Smethwick. (Telephone: SMethwick 0159).

For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases: 5 ambulances are kept at the Borough Ambulance Depot, Highway Garage, Londonderry Lane. (Telephone: SMethwick 0673) 24 hour service.

Other Institutions available for the District:

General Hospital, Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham (Central 8611).
Out-patients' Department open daily at 9 a.m.

Queen's Hospital, Bath Row, Birmingham (Midland 2327).
Out-patients' Department open daily at 9 a.m. (except Sundays).

Children's Hospital, Ladywood Road, Birmingham (Edgbaston 2957).
For children under 12 years of age. Daily from 1.30—2.30 p.m. (except Saturdays and Sundays).

Women's Hospital, Sparkhill, Birmingham (Victoria 1101).
Out-patients' Department, Upper Priory, Birmingham. Daily (except Saturdays and Sundays) from 1 p.m.

Eye Hospital, Church Street, Birmingham (Central 6711).
Out-patients' Department open daily from 9—10 a.m. (except Sunday).

Skin and Urinary Hospital, John Bright Street, Birmingham (Midland 5921). Out-patients' Department open daily from 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. (except Saturday and Sunday).

Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Edmund Street, Birmingham (Central 6576). Out-patients' Department open daily from 1.30—3 p.m. (except Saturday and Sunday).

Royal Cripples' Hospital, Broad Street, Birmingham (Midland 3804).
Out-patients' Department open daily (except Friday, Saturday and Sunday), from 1.30—2.30 p.m.

Dental Hospital, Great Charles Street, Birmingham (Central 3456).
Daily from 9—10.15 a.m. (except Sunday).

Midland Hospital, Easy Row, Birmingham (Central 1421). Out-patients' Department open daily 9—10.30 a.m., afternoon appointments only (except Sunday).

Maternity Hospital, Loveday Street, Birmingham (Aston Cross 2508).
Out-patients are seen on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9 a.m., and Tuesday and Friday at 1.30 p.m.

The Birmingham General Dispensary has a branch at Cape Hill, Smethwick (Telephone: Smethwick 0659), 2—4 p.m. daily (except Wednesday and Sunday).

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1946

CAUSE OF DEATH	0-1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-2 m'ths	2-3 m'ths	3-4 m'ths	4-5 m'ths	5-6 m'ths	6-7 m'ths	7-8 m'ths	8-9 m'ths	9-10 m'ths	10-11 m'ths	11-12 m'ths	Total
Anencephalus	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia (Violent Death)	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Atresia of Rectum	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Erythroblastosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gastro-enteritis	...	...	1	...	4	3	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	12
Hæmorrhagic Disease of New-born	3	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Infantile Convulsions	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lung Abscess and emphyema	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Marasmus	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meningocele	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	2	1	...	5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	7
Premature Birth	14	10	2	2	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Septicaemia	1	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Spina Bifida	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Toxaemia	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Toxic Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTALS :—	26	14	7	5	52	9	2	4	2	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	74

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1946.

BIRTHS.

The number of births notified during the past five years under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by transferred notifications, was as follows:—

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Live Births	1,254	1,343	1,501	1,293	1,489
Still Births	37	46	43	38	25
	<u>1,291</u>	<u>1,389</u>	<u>1,544</u>	<u>1,331</u>	<u>1,514</u>

Comparison with the returns of the local Registrar shows that very few births escape notification.

HEALTH VISITING.

The Council employs a Superintendent and fifteen health visitors who are also school nurses, the equivalent of nine whole-time visitors being engaged in Maternity and Child Welfare work. The number of visits paid during the two years was:—

	1945	1946
(i) To Expectant Mothers	First Visits 564	568
	Total Visits 1,220	1,042
(ii) To Children under one year of age...	First Visits 1,286	1,383
	Total Visits 4,887	4,474
(iii) To Children between one and five years of age	Total Visits 7,159	7,415

The total number of visits paid by the health visitors during the past six years is as follows:—

1941	26,981	1944	24,730
1942	26,349	1945	21,572
1943	30,033	1946	19,355

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The number of centres provided and maintained by the Council is seven, with ten sessions weekly; the total attendance during the past five years was:—

	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Total	
1942	17,675	6,459	24,134	
1943	20,119	7,094	27,213	
1944	20,765	6,584	27,349	
1945	20,903	5,729	26,632	
1946	20,804	5,097	25,901	
			1945	1946
Number of children attending for the first time	Under 1 year ...	1-5 years ...	1,108	1,241
			258	180
		Total	<u>1,366</u>	<u>1,421</u>
Number of children on the registers at end of year	Under 1 year ...	1-5 years ...	959	1,110
			1,837	1,895
		Total	<u>2,796</u>	<u>3,005</u>

The number of children under one who attended for the first time equalled 87.5 per cent. of the notified births in 1944, 83.2 per cent. in 1945 and 83.3 per cent. in 1946.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	1945	1946
Number of cases notified	8	16
Cases treated by health visitors	—	1
Number of cases treated at Eye Hospital	3	16
Cases resulting in impaired vision	—	—
Home visits	13	29

Notifications during the past ten years:—

1937	9	1942	8
1938	14	1943	8
1939	5	1944	9
1940	6	1945	8
1941	14	1946	16

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Since the establishment of the first Ante-Natal Clinic in 1920, the total attendances have been as follows:—

1920	42	1934	4,312
1921	107	1935	5,169
1922	127	1936	5,044
1923	241	1937	5,201
1924	275	1938	6,226
1925	537	1939	6,739
1926	1,015	1940	6,336
1927	1,079	1941	7,221
1928	1,465	1942	8,526
1929	2,253	1943	8,988
1930	3,760	1944	10,093
1931	3,859	1945	7,452
1932	3,509	1946	9,755
1933	3,771		

During 1944, 1,617 individual women attended the clinic, during 1945 the number was 1,455, and during 1946, 1,793.

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Individual patients attending ...	394	352	500	474	465
Percentage of notified births ...	30	26	32	35	30.7
Total attendances ...	1,054	996	1,345	1,255	1498

Care of Premature Infants.

During the year 1946 notification was received of 126 babies who weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth. Of these 49 were born at home, and 77 in hospital. Forty of those born at home survived at the end of one month; none died during the first 24 hours. Of the babies born in hospital 55 survived at the end of one month, and 10 died during the first 24 hours.

Special provision is made for the conveyance by ambulance of premature infants to hospital.

The follow-up of infants discharged from hospital is secured through the Obstetrics Officer in St. Chad's Hospital, who is also Medical Supervisor of Midwives, and who, as a member of the Public Health Department, is also in close touch with the Health Visitors whom he instructs.

Care of Illegitimate Children.

The Council has an arrangement with the Smethwick Branch of the Birmingham Diocesan Council for Moral Welfare, and makes a financial grant. The local authority and Diocesan Council work very closely together, and the scheme provides for complete liaison.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Number of bookings ...	773	729	796	602	740
Ante-natal visits ...	3,892	4,123	3,426	3,596	4,068
Cases attended ...	642	661	716	588	651
Nursing visits ...	13,987	15,415	14,437	12,959	14,351

The number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during 1944 was 240, during 1945, 155 and during 1946, 184. These figures are in connection with domiciliary cases and include municipal and independent midwives.

MATERNITY TREATMENT.

From the 1st April, 1935, maternity cases were received in St. Chad's Hospital, and the following extracts from the return made to the Ministry of Health relate to the year ended 31st December, 1946.

Number of maternity beds in the Institution (exclusive of isolation and labour beds) ...	27
Number of maternity cases admitted during the year ...	643
Number of expectant mothers admitted during the year ...	81
Average duration of stay (maternity cases)—days ...	12.74
Average duration of stay (expectant mothers)—days ...	5.77
Number of cases delivered by:—	
(a) Midwives ...	575
(b) Doctors ...	61
Number of cases Puerperal Pyrexia ...	8
Number of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	—
Number of infants not entirely breast-fed while in the Institution:—	
Supplementary feed ...	1
Complementary feed ...	49
Wholly breast-fed on leaving hospital ...	516
Number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—
Number of maternal deaths ...	2
Cause of death:—	
Caesarean Section. Cardiac failure (multiple bone tuberculosis) ...	1
Obstetric shock. Post-partum haemorrhage ...	
Retained placenta ...	1
Number of Infants deaths:—	
(i) Still-born ...	15
Causes of death:—	
Macerated foetus ...	6
Prematurity ...	2
Prolapsed cord ...	3
Post maturity ...	1
Syphilis ...	1
Difficult forceps delivery ...	1
Breech delivery. Accident of labour ...	1
(ii) Within ten days of birth ...	19
Causes of death:—	
Prematurity ...	17
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	1
Congenital malformation ...	1

Maternal Deaths.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

1944 ...	(1) Sepsis ...	—	(2) Other causes ...	6
1945 ...	(1) Sepsis ...	2	(2) Other causes ...	1
1946 ...	(1) Sepsis ...	—	(2) Other causes ...	2

The Maternal mortality rate for the past twenty years was:—

1926	3.5	1933	3.2	1940	2.6
1927	3.0	1934	5.3	1941	2.7
1928	4.2	1935	3.3	1942	3.9
1929	5.2	1936	2.3	1943	2.1
1930	4.5	1937	2.5	1944	3.9
1931	1.9	1938	3.3	1945	2.1
1932	5.4	1939	3.4	1946	1.33

The rate for England and Wales was 1.46 for 1945, 1.93 for 1944 and 1.43 for 1946.

Child Life Protection.

Four individual foster mothers are registered under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1939, and at the end of the year each had one child in her care. The Health Visitors act as the Child Protection Visitors.

Adoption of Children.

During the year 46 persons gave notice under section 7 (3) of the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939. Supervision is given by the Child Protection Visitor and at the end of the year 2 children remained on the register.

Home Helps and Domestic Help.

One full-time Home Help was employed during the year and assisted 12 cases. The Domestic Help scheme which was put into operation in September, 1945, has not been very successful owing to the very great difficulty in securing suitable women to act as domestic helpers. During the year, several women were employed for short periods and assisted in six cases.

DAY NURSERIES.

The Nursery in Holly Lane was closed in July, the children remaining being transferred to the other nurseries. The attendances at the Nurseries were well maintained throughout the year.

The total of attendances during 1946 was 36,514, a daily average (excluding Saturday) of 139. The number of individual children on the register at the end of the year was 169.

Nursery	Number of Places	Total Attendances 1946	Average daily Attendances
1. Brasshouse Lane (opened 12/1/42)	60	12,395	48
2. Holly Lane (closed 6/7/46)	33	2,904	21
3. Edgbaston Road (opened 22/6/42) ..	60	13,634	54
4. Norman Road (opened 14/12/42) ...	40	7,581	29

The Council decided to open a crèche at the Firs Clinic in August, 1946, in charge of the matron from Holly Lane Nursery. The facilities were offered to mothers on five afternoons each week, but the response was disappointing and the experiment was discontinued in March, 1947. During the nine months in which the crèche was opened the total attendances were 1,150, the daily attendances never exceeding 16, and dropping to five or six.

INFESTATION.

There are at present three part-time Orderlies, one male and two female employed at the clinics for eight sessions per week.

The female orderlies visit the schools with the Health Visitors, and when facilities permit cleanse the children at the schools; otherwise they are cleansed at the clinics.

During 1946 16,720 children were examined in the schools for cleanliness, of whom 2,595 were found unclean; of these 214 were treated at the Firs Clinic with 607 treatments and 186 at the Cape Clinic with 668 treatments.

The source of infection is often the adult members of the families, but it is difficult to prove that this is so, and in many cases where it is known, treatment has been offered, but the necessary co-operation has been difficult to secure.

Baths are also given to children who visit the clinics for other conditions, and are found to be in a filthy state.

The co-operation of the teachers has been excellent, and the help they give is greatly appreciated.

With regard to the parents, their co-operation has been good on the whole, but there have been cases where the mothers have strongly objected to their children being cleansed at the clinic. Every effort is made to show them that action is being taken in the interest of the child, and in most cases their co-operation is eventually secured.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Although hostilities ceased in 1945, this annual report for the year 1946 still has the appearance of a war-time production, at least so far as the format of the report is concerned. It is once again compiled "in complete conformity with the authorised economy standards." But in spite of its abbreviated form, the record of work performed during the period reviewed is one to which I can allude with some satisfaction for the first time since the war clouds made their appearance in the year 1938.

INSPECTIONS:

A reference to Table I will show that the total number of inspections of all types of premises was 22,371, which is a record for all time. It compares with 12,599 in the previous year 1945. This high number of inspections was rendered necessary because of the accumulated neglect of the war years, and was made possible by the fact that I had, for the greater part of the year, an adequate staff to do it. Another record appears in the total of Table II.—Summary of Defects. To appreciate the increase here the figures should be examined in conjunction with those for 1945. The comparative figures are:—

	1945	1946
Defects reported	3,423	9,108
Defects remedied	2,805	8,675

The outstanding items in the above record are 1,508 new ashbins; 1,304 repairs to defective roofs, etc.; 1,377 repairs to defective plastering of walls and ceilings and 1,037 premises cleansed.

This may at first sight seem matter for criticism during a year when the Government has been urging upon local authorities and all others concerned the need for the strictest economy in the use of every kind of building materials so as not to impede the erection of new houses. But it is in keeping with the policy of the Smethwick Health Committee that houses which have suffered from the neglect of the war years must be restored as rapidly as possible to something like habitable and comfortable condition, even though to do this makes some call upon materials and labour which might otherwise have gone into the erection of new houses. The two processes of building new houses and restoring existing ones much proceed together. After all it would give no satisfaction to the Health Committee to be able to say that by withholding licences and discouraging house repairs, we saved enough slates to roof in ten new houses, if as a result a hundred houses fell into decay and ultimate collapse for the want of those very slates. A proper balance must be preserved between the demand for new houses and the very definite needs of existing houses. In my report for 1943 I sounded a note of warning in these words: "It must not be assumed from these figures (summary of repairs) that property generally is being maintained in good condition. The total defects remedied by notices served on owners during the war years is less than one-third that of normal times, consequently a major housing repair problem is being created which will tax the resources of the department in post war years." Those post war years are now upon us and the result of the inevitable neglect is reflected in the rate at which complaints are now reaching the department. The comparative table given below speaks for itself and requires no comment from me:—

COMPLAINT RATE

Average for 10 pre-war years	...	...	...	788
1939	...	...	...	667
1940	...	...	...	788
1941	...	...	...	673
1942	...	...	...	752
1943	...	...	...	1,015
1944	...	...	...	1,422
1945	...	...	...	1,480
1946	...	...	...	1,691

Thus the year 1946 is a record in respect of the number of complaints received. But the year 1947 promises to outstrip all previous ones, the number recorded during the first six months being 1,239.

ATMOSPHERE POLLUTION:

Proceedings were instituted against the proprietors of a factory in respect of a nuisance arising from emissions of noxious effluvia from a producer gas plant. The case was dismissed on a point of law, but subsequently the firm agreed to put into effect recommendations made by a consulting gas engineer engaged by the Council.

Two firms who were creating a nuisance from the use of pulverised fuel have both agreed to carry out a progressive conversion from pulverised coal to oil. In one case the conversion is complete and in the other two-thirds of the furnaces have been changed over.

RODENT DESTRUCTION:

This work has been continued with determination and the total number of rats destroyed during the year, including those presumed to have been exterminated in the course of the systematic treatment of the sewers, must be near the four thousand mark.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938:

The number of samples of Foods and Drugs submitted to the Public analyst for analysis was 231, and of this number 42 were the subject of adverse reports. Proceedings were taken in two cases of milk found to contain added water. Most of the other offences were contraventions of the various Food Labelling Orders. Strong warning letters were sent with satisfactory results in every case.

STAFF:

The following staff changes took place during the year under review:

Returned from Service in H.M. Forces—

Mr. Herbert (District Inspector), 2nd April, 1946.
Mr. Allen (Pupil Inspector), 25th March, 1946.
Mr. Cutler (Pupil Inspector), 1st April, 1946.
Mr. Lawton (Pupil Inspector), 1st May, 1946.
Mr. Hayne (Pupil Inspector), 1st May, 1946.

New Appointments—

Mr. Evans (District Inspector), 16th September, 1946.
Mr. Perry (District Inspector), 18th November, 1946.
Miss Parish (Clerk and Shorthand Typist), 4th November, 1946.
Miss Grundon (Clerk and Shorthand Typist), 16th December, 1946.

Resignations—

Mr. Herbert (District Inspector), 7th July, 1946.
Mr. Sadler (District Inspector), 28th September, 1946.
Mrs. Collett (Temporary Clerk), 5th October, 1946.
Miss Danckert (Junior Clerk), transferred to Medical side, 16th December, 1946.

Of the members of my staff on the 1st January, 1946, the only one remaining on the 31st December was my Deputy, Mr. F. Caddick. The number of Inspectors and assistants at work throughout the year has fluctuated between two and seven.

An analysis of these staff variations shows that the total number of man-months was 65, or almost an average of $5\frac{1}{2}$ inspectors for the whole year, compared with four at the outbreak of war, and two during the war years.

CONCLUSION:

I wish to express my grateful thanks to every member of the staff, and especially to my Deputy, Mr. Caddick, upon whom the inconvenience of so many staff changes has borne most heavily.

The Health Committee's scheme for the rehabilitation of the returning young men whose careers were interrupted by the war has succeeded well. All have responded splendidly to the encouragement given to them. They have thrown themselves with zest and vigour into their new duties as Pupil Sanitary Inspectors and have resumed their studies with determination.

Finally I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their support and encouragement throughout the year, Dr. Paul for his advice and friendly co-operation at all times, the Town Clerk and Chief Officers of other departments, from all of whom I have received valued assistance.

JOHN H. WRIGHT,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The total number of visits paid to all premises for all purposes was 22,371 compared with 12,599 in the year 1945. These inspections are summarised in the following table:—

TABLE 1.

Housing Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	62
Housing Act Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	188
Inspections on Complaint	...	...	...	...	...	3,225
Re-visits re Notices Served	...	...	...	...	...	9,559
Inspections re Ashes Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	1,451
Re-visits re Ashes Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	2,057
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	267
Meat and Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	292
Private Slaughtering	...	...	...	...	...	142
Markets Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	82
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	19
Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	17
Food Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	688
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	167
Pigsties	...	...	...	...	...	62
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	...	...	...	...	...	1,569
Insect Pests and Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	59
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	18
Visits re Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	17
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	17
Visits re Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	723
Visits re Waste Water Closet Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	923
Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs	...	...	...	...	...	26
Smethwick Corporation Act, 1929	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	716
Total						22,381

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS.

The following table gives a summary of the various defects encountered in the course of visits paid to all types of premises together with the number of defects remedied under each heading:—

TABLE II.

	Found	Remedied
Dirty Premises	1,170	1,037
Defective Roofs, Spouting and Eaves *Gutters ...	1,351	1,304
Blocked Drains and W.O.'s	123	134
Defective Yard and Passage Surfaces	31	31
Defective Sinks and Waste Pipes	103	103
Accumulations of Offensive Matter	29	28
Defective Plaster of Walls and Ceilings	1,386	1,377
Defective Ashbins	1,389	1,508
Defective Water Closets	289	405
Insufficient Lighting and Ventilation	496	323
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	3	2
Defective Water Fittings	60	86
Smoke Nuisances	5	—
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	11	1
Dampness	322	252
Insufficient Water Supply	21	23
Insect Pests and Vermin Infestations	4	19
Defective or Insufficient Drainage	58	91
Inadequate Food Storage Accommodation	2	3
Inadequate Coal Storage Accommodation	—	2
Insufficient Means of Heating	1	2
Defective or Inadequate Washboiler Accommodation	149	146
Defective External Brickwork and Chimneys ...	567	451
Defective Floors	288	232
Defective Firegrates	246	218
Defective Stairs and Rails	73	44
Defective Rain Water Cisterns	23	13
Defective Woodwork of Windows, Doors, etc. ...	538	471
Ice Cream Premises	1	—
Waste Water Closets	114	120
Overcrowding	36	29
Dangerous Buildings	11	9
Miscellaneous Defects	208	211
Total ...	9,108	8,675

WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough is supplied with water by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. The quality and quantity have been well maintained during the year. Derived from deep boreholes through red sandstone, the water has a hardness of 16 to 17 parts in 100,000.

There are now only 1.1 per cent. of houses in the town sharing a common water supply. The position with regard to water is set out below:

	Houses	Population	Percentage
Internal water supply	20,346	69,175	95.9
Separate outdoor supply	625	2,125	3.0
Communal water supply	247	840	1.1

PROSECUTIONS.—PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 94.

Legal proceedings were instituted in twenty-eight cases against owners of property for non-compliance with Statutory Notices for the abatement of nuisances. In eighteen of these cases the summonses were withdrawn, the work required being completed or in hand before the date of the hearing. In the remaining ten cases, the Magistrates made orders for the execution of the work.

Of the ten cases where orders were made, eight were complied. In the remaining two cases, the owner failed to comply with the Court Orders and fines of £5 and £1 were imposed, together with a daily penalty of ten shillings in each case.

One case was instituted against a local firm to abate the emission of noxious effluvia. On the submission of Defending Counsel the Justices dismissed the case on legal grounds.

WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE CORPORATION IN THE OWNERS DEFAULT:

In certain cases the Corporation is empowered to comply with the terms of Notices served upon owners of property in case of the owners default and without reference to the Courts.

During the year the Corporation have executed work and charged the owners with the cost thereof in the following cases:—

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| (1) Cleansing or repair of blocked or defective drains and repairs to defective W.C.'s under Section 49 of the Smethwick Corporation Act | ... | ... | ... | ... | 97 cases |
| (2) The supply of galvanised iron ashbins with covers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 369 cases |
| (3) The execution of maintenance repairs under the Housing Act, 1936 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 cases |

WASTE WATER CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

During the year under review, 98 Waste Water Closets were converted to Water Closets at an average cost of £15 7s. 0d. The cost to the Corporation of these conversions amounted to £752 5s. 0d. Up to the commencement of the war 532 conversions had taken place at an average cost of £7 9s. 3d., the amount borne by the Corporation towards the cost of the 532 conversions being £1,859 4s. 4d.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.—OVERCROWDING.

The number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year totalled 90, involving 93 families. The average size of the overcrowded families is 7.3 persons.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

Progress in eradication of rats and mice has been well maintained during the year. The number of premises cleared of rats totalled 276, and the estimated number of rats destroyed amounted to 3,269.

Treatment of two Corporation tips situated outside the Borough was carried out, resulting in the destruction of 500 rats.

Treatment of the sewers was also carried out during the year. The number of manholes pre-baited was 866, and 460 manholes were poison baited. The number of manholes, where bait was wholly or partially taken, totalled 210.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The number of visits paid to factories during the year was 167 and defects in connection with sanitary conveniences were found in six cases. As a result of the service of Notices the defects at these six factories were remedied. Three notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories drawing attention to sanitary defects.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply.*

During the year 20 samples of milk were submitted to the University of Birmingham Public Health Laboratory for biological examination for the detection of tubercle bacilli. All 20 samples gave negative results.

The number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination, viz., 190, is the highest for many years. The results of the examinations are summarised in the following table:—

TABLE III.

Type of Milk	No. of Samples	Tests Applied	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	79	Plate Count	4	—
		Phosphatase	79	—
		Methylene Blue	57	22
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	43	Plate Count	3	—
		Phosphatase	43	—
		Methylene Blue	36	7
Tuberculin Tested	3	Methylene Blue	1	2
Heat Treated	4	Phosphatase	4	—
		Methylene Blue	1	3
Sterilized	58	Phosphatase	58	—
		Methylene Blue	57	1
Raw	3	Methylene Blue	1	2

Summary:

Milk examined for keeping quality (Methylene Blue)—19.4 per cent. unsatisfactory.

(b) *Other Foods.*

The articles of food which it has been found necessary to condemn for diseased or unsound conditions are summarised in the table below. In all cases the food was surrendered and destroyed or was so disposed of as to prevent its use for human food.

TABLE IV.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Meat	—	6	—	25	12
Vegetables	—	4	3	20	5
Fish	—	3	1	10	4½
Fruit	2	1	1	25	6
Fats	—	5	—	17	7½
Miscellaneous	—	8	1	2	2
	3	9	1	17	5

HOME REARED PIGS SLAUGHTERED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION ON PRIVATE PREMISES.

The following table shows the number of pigs slaughtered and inspected, together with a statement as to the amount and nature of disease encountered in such pigs.

TABLE V.

Number of pigs killed	83
Number of pigs inspected	83
Number found diseased:—	

(a) All diseases except Tuberculosis:—

(i) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3
(ii) Percentage of number affected with diseases other than T.B.	3.61

(b) Tuberculosis only:—

(i) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5
(ii) Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis	6.02

TABLE VI.

SUMMARY OF ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS SUBMITTED
TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST AND THE RESULTS OF THE
ANALYSES.

Article Analysed	Total Samples	Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	83	80	3
Semolina	4	4	—
Raising Powder	3	3	—
Fishpaste	1	1	—
Barley Flakes	1	1	—
Pudding Mixture	7	5	2
Batter Mixture	1	1	—
Epsom Salts	3	1	2
Iodine	4	2	2
Syrup of Figs	3	—	3
Gravy Salt	5	3	2
Table Dessert	2	1	1
Gravy Browning	6	6	—
Sponge Pudding	4	3	1
Omelette Mixture	1	—	1
Barley	1	1	—
Bisto	3	3	—
Baking Powder	6	4	2
Bi-Carbonate of Soda	4	4	—
Ginger	1	1	—
Mixed Spice	5	5	—
Chocolate Cup	1	1	—
Lemon Essence	2	—	2
Orange Essence	1	1	—
Dessert Mould	2	—	2
Meat Paste	1	1	—
Mixed Herbs	1	1	—
Flavouring Essence	1	1	—
Soup	1	—	1
Bun Flour	1	—	1
Bloaster Paste	1	1	—
Cake Decorations	1	1	—
Piccalilli	1	1	—
Sage and Onion Stuffing	5	5	—
Cough Mixture	2	2	—
Chocolate Spread	1	1	—
Cold and Headache Powder	1	—	1
Stone Flour Mixture	1	—	1
Borax	3	3	—
Mustard	2	2	—
Back and Kidney Pills	1	1	—
Chest and Lung Mixture	2	2	—
Beechams Powder	1	1	—
Marmite	1	1	—
Parsley and Thyme Forcemeat	5	2	3
Vanilla Essence	1	1	—
Fish Paste	1	1	—
Fruit Laxative Syrup	1	1	—
Cake Mixture	1	1	—
Chocolate Flavoured Dessert	1	—	1
Tonic Food	2	—	2
Parsley	2	—	2
Headache Powder	2	1	1
Boracic Acid Powder	1	1	—
Sponge Powder	1	—	1
Suet Pudding Mixture	2	1	1
Sage	1	1	—

Article Analysed	Total Samples	Genuine	Not Genuine
Green Pea Soup	1	1	—
Laxative Chocolate	2	2	—
Stuffing	1	1	—
Beef and Ham Paste	1	1	—
Cloves	1	1	—
Brandy Flavour	1	1	—
Spasburg Salts	1	—	1
Meat Paste	2	2	—
Oxo	1	—	1
Curry Powder	3	3	—
Veron Cubes	1	—	1
Potato Powder	1	1	—
Stomach Powder	1	1	—
Anchovy Paste	1	1	—
Salt	2	2	—
Beef Extract	1	1	—
Ground Ginger	1	1	—
Pea Flour	1	1	—
Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	1	1	—
Forcemeat Stuffing	1	1	—
Vanilla Barley Pudding	1	1	—
Raspberry Flavouring Essence	1	1	—
Lemonade Crystals	1	—	1
	231	189	42

PROSECUTION.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION ACT, 1936.

During the year a milk dealer was charged at the Law Courts with selling milk containing 12·6% and 10·3% of added water. The defendant was found guilty and fined £5 in each case with £3 18s. 0d. costs.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

The Borough Analysts, Messrs. Bostock, Hill and Rigby, of Birmingham, carry out chemical analyses of food, drugs, water, air, etc.

Bacteriological examination of food, including examination of milk for methylene blue reduction test, bacterial count, phosphatase test, and the presence of B.Coli, as well as the biological examination of milk for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli are undertaken at the Department of Bacteriology, The Medical School, Hospitals Centre, Birmingham.

**Causes of Death at different Periods of Life in the
County Borough of Smethwick, 1946.**

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
ALL CAUSES	M	511	47	6	6	62	149	241
	F	403	27	4	2	34	83	253
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	M	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	M	36	—	—	—	25	9	2
	F	19	—	1	1	11	4	2
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	M	4	—	2	1	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Syphilitic Disease	M	6	1	—	—	1	3	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Influenza	M	3	1	—	—	—	1	1
	F	5	—	—	—	—	1	4
10. Measles	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M), Uterus (F)	M	8	—	—	—	2	1	5
	F	4	—	—	—	—	1	3
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	M	18	—	—	—	2	10	6
	F	9	—	—	—	—	2	7
15. Cancer of Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	9	—	—	—	1	3	5
16. Cancer of all other Sites	M	67	—	—	—	4	25	38
	F	30	—	—	—	—	13	17
17. Diabetes	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	6	—	—	—	1	1	4
18. Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions	M	35	—	1	—	1	9	24
	F	74	—	—	—	1	13	60
19. Heart Disease	M	99	—	—	—	6	28	65
	F	112	—	—	—	4	23	85
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	M	15	—	—	—	1	2	12
	F	15	—	—	—	—	2	13
21. Bronchitis	M	56	3	—	—	1	19	33
	F	20	—	—	—	2	5	13
22. Pneumonia	M	22	3	—	—	4	8	7
	F	15	4	—	—	1	3	7
23. Other Respiratory Diseases... ..	M	6	—	—	—	—	1	5
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
24. Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	M	11	—	—	—	—	8	3
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
25. Diarrhoea under two years	M	7	7	—	—	—	—	—
	F	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis	M	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases	M	8	—	—	1	—	3	4
	F	16	—	—	—	3	4	9
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	M	14	—	—	—	2	6	6
	F	8	—	—	—	3	1	4
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes	F	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
31. Premature Birth... ..	M	15	15	—	—	—	—	—
	F	11	11	—	—	—	—	—
32. Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	M	12	11	1	—	—	—	—
	F	7	7	—	—	—	—	—
33. Suicide	M	6	—	—	—	1	2	3
	F	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	M	7	—	1	1	3	2	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
35. Other Violent Causes	M	9	2	—	—	3	4	—
	F	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
36. All other Causes	M	42	3	1	1	6	6	25
	F	22	—	2	—	3	6	11